

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) Composite pigment polymer particles having a pigment phase and a polymer phase, said polymer phase of said particles being formed in the presence of said pigment in situ using an emulsion polymerization process wherein a first portion of an addition polymerization initiator consisting essentially of an initiator dissolved in a solvent is added to an aqueous pigment mixture before then adding a monomer mixture for forming the polymer phase to the pigment mixture to form a pigment/monomer mixture in a continuous process, the dispersion of composite ~~colorant~~ pigment polymer particles being stable as defined by said particles not flocculating for up to 20 minutes when a dispersion containing said particles is added to acetone at a 1% by weight concentration; wherein the pigment mixture consists essentially of a pigment, a dispersant or surfactant and water, and wherein essentially no monomer is present in the aqueous pigment mixture.

2. (cancelled).

3. (Previously presented) The composite pigment polymer particles of Claim 1 wherein said polymer phase comprises a polymer formed from methyl methacrylate, ethyl methacrylate, butyl methacrylate, ethyl acrylate, butyl acrylate, hexyl acrylate, n-octyl acrylate, lauryl methacrylate, 2-ethylhexyl methacrylate, nonyl acrylate, benzyl methacrylate, 2-hydroxypropyl methacrylate, acrylonitrile, methacrylonitrile, vinyl acetate, vinyl propionate, vinylidene chloride, vinyl chloride, styrene, t-butyl styrene, vinyl toluene, butadiene, isoprene, N,N-dimethyl acrylamide, acrylic acid, methacrylic acid, chloromethacrylic acid, maleic acid, allylamine, N,N-diethylallylamine, vinyl sulfonamide, sodium acrylate, sodium methacrylate, ammonium acrylate, ammonium methacrylate, acrylamidopropane-triethylammonium chloride, methacrylamidopropane-triethylammonium chloride, vinyl-pyridine hydrochloride, sodium vinyl phosphonate and sodium 1-methylvinylphosphonate,

sodium vinyl sulfonate, sodium 1-methylvinyl-sulfonate or sodium styrenesulfonate.

4. (Previously presented) The composite pigment polymer particles of Claim 1 having a mean particle size of less than about 200 nm.

5. (Previously presented) The composite pigment polymer particles of Claim 1 having a mean particle size of less than about 80 nm.

6. (Previously presented) The composite pigment polymer particles of Claim 1 wherein said polymer phase is cross-linked.

7. (Currently amended) The composite pigment polymer particles of Claim 1 wherein said pigment phase of said composite pigment particles has a mean size of less than about 80 nm.

8. (cancelled)

9. (Previously presented) The composite pigment polymer particles of Claim 1 wherein the ratio of said pigment phase to said polymer phase is from about 30:70 to about 70:30.

10. (New) Composite pigment polymer particles having a pigment phase and a polymer phase, said polymer phase of said particles being formed in the presence of said pigment in situ using an emulsion polymerization process wherein a first portion of an addition polymerization initiator consisting essentially of an initiator dissolved in a solvent is added to an aqueous pigment mixture before then adding a monomer mixture for forming the polymer phase to the pigment mixture to form a pigment/monomer mixture in a continuous process,; wherein the pigment mixture consists essentially of a pigment, a dispersant or surfactant and water, and wherein sequential addition of initiator to the pigment mixture essentially prior to adding monomer mixture to the pigment mixture allows radicals formed from the initiator to be absorbed to pigment surface and, when monomer mixture is added later, provides polymerization on

the pigment surface rather than the formation of separated polymer particles, thereby resulting in a dispersion of the composite pigment polymer particles being stable as defined by said particles not flocculating for up to 20 minutes when a dispersion containing said particles is added to acetone at a 1% by weight concentration.